

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for alerting e-mail users comprising:
2 if a failed delivery message is received, setting an indicator associated with an
3 address of an addressee corresponding to the failed delivery message;
4 displaying said address in conjunction with a perceptive cue in response to
5 said indicator being set; and
6 wherein, if said indicator is set, said indicator is operable for clearing in
7 response to said address becoming accessible.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said indicator comprises a timestamp,
2 the method further comprising clearing said indicator in response to an expiry of a
3 preselected time interval, said expiry determined using said timestamp.

1 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising clearing said indicator in
2 response to subsequently receiving an e-mail originated from the address of the
3 addressee corresponding to the failed delivery message.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 clearing said indicator in response to a successful delivery status notification
3 for said address.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 caching an undelivered e-mail generating said failed delivery message; and
3 associating the cached e-mail and said address of an addressee corresponding
4 to the failed delivery message.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said clearing said indicator comprises
2 resetting said indicator to a predetermined null value.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said address is displayed using said
2 perceptive cue in response to a user generating a subsequent e-mail having said
3 address.

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1 8. A computer program product embodied in a tangible storage medium,
2 the program product for alerting e-mail users comprising programming instructions
3 for:

4 if a failed delivery message is received, setting an indicator associated with an
5 address of an addressee corresponding to the failed delivery message;

6 displaying said address in conjunction with a perceptive cue in response to
7 said indicator being set; and

8 wherein, if said indicator is set, said indicator is operable for clearing in
9 response to said address becoming accessible.

1 9. The computer program product of claim 8 wherein said indicator
2 comprises a timestamp, the program product further comprising programming
3 instructions for clearing said indicator in response to an expiry of a preselected time
4 interval, said expiry determined using said timestamp.

1 10. The computer program product of claim 8 further comprising
2 programming instructions for clearing said indicator in response to subsequently
3 receiving an e-mail originated from the address of the addressee corresponding to the
4 failed delivery message.

1 11. The program product of claim 8 further comprising programming
2 instructions for:

3 clearing said indicator in response to a successful delivery status notification
4 for said address.

1 12. The program product of claim 8 further comprising programming
2 instructions for:

3 caching an undelivered e-mail generating said failed delivery message; and

4 associating the cached e-mail and said address of an addressee corresponding
5 to the failed delivery message.

1 13. The program product of claim 8 wherein said clearing said indicator
2 comprises resetting said indicator to a predetermined null value.

1 14. The program product of claim 8 wherein said address is displayed
2 using said perceptive cue in response to a user generating a subsequent e-mail having
3 said address.
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1 15. A data processing system comprising:

2 circuitry operable for, if a failed delivery message is received, setting an
3 indicator associated with an address of an addressee corresponding to the failed
4 delivery message;

5 circuitry operable for displaying said address in conjunction with a perceptive
6 cue in response to said indicator being set; and

7 wherein, if said indicator is set, said indicator is operable for clearing in
8 response to said address becoming accessible.

1 16. The data processing system of claim 15 wherein said indicator
2 comprises a timestamp, the data processing system further comprising circuitry
3 operable for clearing said indicator in response to an expiry of a preselected time
4 interval, said expiry determined using said timestamp.

1 17. The data processing system of claim 15 further comprising circuitry
2 operable for clearing said indicator in response to subsequently receiving an e-mail
3 originated from the address of the addressee corresponding to the failed delivery
4 message.

1 18. The data processing system of claim 15 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for clearing said indicator in response to a successful
3 delivery status notification for said address.

1 19. The data processing system of claim 15 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for caching an undelivered e-mail generating said failed
3 delivery message; and

4 circuitry operable for associating the cached e-mail and said address of an
5 addressee corresponding to the failed delivery message.

1 20. The data processing system of claim 1 wherein said address is
2 displayed using said perceptive cue in response to a user generating a subsequent e-
3 mail having said address.